

**THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA**  
**RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**MARCH 21, 2003**

165 Upon motion made, and seconded, the following was unanimously adopted:

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Governors recognizes the importance of adequate funding for California's trial and appellate courts, to ensure a judicial system that is fair, equitable, and accessible; and

**WHEREAS**, while acknowledging the severe budgetary constraints facing the state of California and all three branches of government thereof, the Board is concerned that no branch face a disproportionate reduction in its resources that might impair its abilities to fulfill its constitutional mandate; and

**WHEREAS**, pending proposals for reduction in funding for the trial and appellate courts threaten to have a disproportionate impact on the state's judiciary, and thereby to severely impair access to justice for the people of California; and

**WHEREAS**, as the Chief Justice stated in his 2001 State of the Judiciary speech, "If the motto 'and justice for all' becomes 'and justice for those who can afford it', we threaten the very underpinnings of our social contract..."

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Governors, upon recommendation from the Board Committee on Stakeholder Relations, supports the efforts of the California Supreme Court and Judicial Council to ensure that budget cutbacks to the court system are not disproportionate, and to seek ways to mitigate the effects of those cuts so that the courts can continue to provide a fair, equitable and accessible judicial system; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Governors, as both the administrative arm of the Supreme Court for admissions and discipline, and as elected representatives of the attorneys of the state, supports and encourages the Supreme Court's efforts to unify the elements of the judicial branch in its effort to both seek effective responses to the state's budgetary shortfall and to protect California's system of justice.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Governors at its Meeting held on Friday, March 21, 2003, in Long Beach, California.

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Judy Johnson, Executive Director/Secretary

Date: March 25, 2003